

ESIA Media Release

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States will miss out on business opportunities without energy savings schemes says ESIA, launched today

The Energy Savings Industry Association (ESIA) is the new name of the former Energy Efficiency Certificate Creators Association (EECCA), officially launched today. The rebrand better represents the changing membership. Founding members included accredited energy efficiency certificate creators. Today's members also include product suppliers and other service providers accredited under energy savings schemes in Australia. The ESIA has released a White Paper.

States and territories will miss out on immediate business opportunities to invest in saving energy and will miss out on billions of dollars of energy customer bill savings if they don't introduce or strengthen existing energy savings schemes from 2019, according to the ESIA.

Facts about energy savings schemes in Vic, NSW, SA & ACT since 2009:

- > 2.3 million households and businesses have participated;
- > 5 million energy-saving upgrades so far;
- > 5 million MWh of electricity saved annually;
- > 5 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions avoided;
- > 4,000 jobs supported; and
- > \$1 billion of customer bill savings annually.

"We have arrived at critical crossroads around Australia as some schemes approach their 2020 target end dates," said Energy Savings Industry Association (ESIA) President Mr Hamish McGovern speaking at that organisation's Melbourne launch today.

"We can't be complacent about the heavy lifting these schemes are achieving and the potential for them to do more over the next decade. These schemes have delivered an average annual reduction of total electricity consumption of almost four per cent. Energy savings schemes could do much more if expanded, extended and introduced across Australia.

"We commend the Victorian Government on its commitment to strengthening the Victorian Energy Upgrades (VEU) program and are delighted that the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio has been able to join us to mark this special occasion. We have engaged with the Victorian Government since the scheme start in 2009 when we formed as the Energy Efficiency Certificate Creators group and associated in 2013 as the EECCA," concluded Mr McGovern.

An estimated 1.8 million households and 80,000 businesses have participated to date in the VEU. The Victorian Government estimates that those who have participated up to the end of 2017 will save \$500 million on their energy bills in 2018: households will save an average of \$150 off their energy bills this year, and businesses will save on average around \$4,700 annually on their energy bills. The net benefit of achieving the VEU targets for 2016 to 2020 is estimated between \$1.3 and \$3.2 billion depending on which activities are included.

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